

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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ACTION MCT-01

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00
USIE-00 INRE-00 COME-00 TRSE-00 CCO-00 IO-14
ACDA-12 SCS-06 CA-01 A-01 OPR-02 SY-05 OC-06
OMB-01 EB-08 HA-05 USSS-00 /112 W
-----078418 111933Z /42

Z O 111900Z MAR 78 ZFF4
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC FLASH 1828
DIA WASHDC
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT NIACT IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS TEL AVIV 3281

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINS, ASEC, IS, LE
SUBJECT: TERRORIST ATTACK IN CENTRAL ISRAEL

1. AT APPROXIMATELY 1430 ZULU, 11 MARCH, A GROUP OF TERRORISTS REPORTEDLY LANDED FROM THE SEA, APPROXIMATELY 30 KILOMETERS SOUTH OF HAIFA. THE GROUP'S SIZE IS TENTATIVELY ESTIMATED AT TEN OR MORE TERRORISTS. EXACT NUMBER NOT DETERMINED.
 2. THE TERRORISTS SEIZED ONE BUS REPORTEDLY FILLED WITH WEEKEND TRAVEL EMPLOYEES OF THE EGGED BUS COMPANY. A SECOND BUS, NUMBER OF OCCUPANTS UNDERTERMINED, WAS ATTACKED AND ISRAELI CASUALTIES OCCURRED. CASUALTIES FROM THAT BUS WERE EVACUATED TO HAIFA HOSPITALS.
 3. THE TERRORISTS MOVED SOUTH ON THE MAIN HAIFA-TEL AVIV HIGHWAY IN THE BUS WHICH IS APPARENTLY THE ONE OCCUPIED BY EGGED EMPLOYEES. THEY ENCOUNTERED ISRAELI SECURITY ELEMENTS IN THE VICINITY OF THE TEL AVIV
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COUNTRY CLUB, WHICH IS LOCATED AT THE INTERSECTION OF THE HAIFA HIGHWAY-JERUSALEM ROAD BYPASS. A GUN BATTLE ENSUED, FOLLOWED BY A FIRE AND EXPLOSION ON THE BUS. ADDITIONAL CASUALTIES OCCURRED AND HAVE BEEN EVACUATED TO LOCAL TEL AVIV HOSPITALS.

4. AN UNKNOWN NUMBER OF TERRORISTS HAVE SCATTERED IN

THE AREA WHICH IS NOW BEING SEALED OFF BY POLICE AND ARMY TROOPS WHO ARE ENGAGED IN A SEARCH. AIR FORCE ELEMENTS ARE ASSISTING WITH FLARES. ISRAELI AIR FORCE HELICOPTERS HAVE APPARENTLY INSERTED BLOCKING FORCES IN THE AREA.

5. ACCORDING TO RADIO ISRAEL, FATAH HAS CLAIMED RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE ATTACK IN A STATEMENT ISSUED IN BEIRUT.

6. WE HAVE NO INFORMATION AT THIS TIME IF ANY AMERICAN CITIZENS HAVE BEEN INVOLVED. WE ARE CANVASSING ALL LOCAL HOSPITALS AND REMAINING IN CLOSE CONTACT WITH AUTHORITIES.

7. JUST ADVISED BY IDF SOURCE (NOT CONFIRMED ELSEWHERE) THAT 20 PERSONS KILLED AND 70 WOUNDED IN BUS ATTACKS AND SUBSEQUENT SHOOTOUT. "SOME" TERRORISTS KILLED AND AT LEAST ONE CAPTURED ALIVE.
VIETS

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Draft Date: 11 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Litigation History:
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